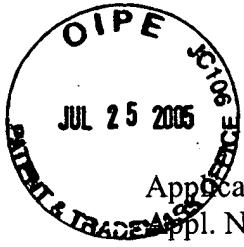


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Keiji Igaki  
Appl. No.: 10/529,194  
Conf. No.: Unknown  
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Title: THREAD FOR VASCULAR STENT AND VASCULAR STENT USING THE  
THREAD  
Art Unit: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown  
Docket No.: 0113184-098

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.